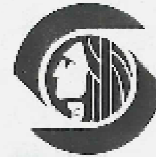


Your City, Seattle

Executive Department - Office for Women's Rights
Charles Royer, Mayor

DRAFT



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF AIDS RESOLUTION

RECEIVED
JUN 17 1983
Mayors Office

Presented to: The Public Health and Safety Committee
Presented: June 21, 1983

My name is Nancy Welton. I am the Public Information Officer at the Seattle Office for Women's Rights and am here to represent the Office and the needs of our constituencies.

You have all the necessary facts. You know the gravity of the situation. A deadly disease is threatening the lives of men, women and children in this city. The situation will get worse before it gets better. The Seattle Office for Women's Rights strongly urges the passing of the proposed resolution. We applaud Jack Richards and the members of the Public Health and Safety Committee for your willingness to respond to this health crisis.

In addition to passage of this resolution, we ask that implementation of the resolution begin immediately. We recommend that all relevant departments develop a plan of action before fall to allow time for council consideration and approval. The resolution accurately acknowledges that we are in a state of public health emergency. Since there is no time for the spinning of beaurocratic wheels, we ask that you do whatever you can to grease the wheels of city government so that solid action can begin immediately. Further, we ask that the city council allocate whatever funds

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are necessary including the funding of the Mayor's proposal for a joint project with the county on research and education. The resolution without necessary funding would become an empty gesture.

The Office for Women's Rights has begun an educational program and assisted in outreach to the women of this city. We recognize the importance of a joint effort by all concerned citizens in the war against AIDS and in support of AIDS victims and their loved ones.

The community at large is beginning to realize that this disease is not a disease limited to one or two high risk groups. It is a disease that cuts across gender, age, race and sexual preference lines. The Office for Women's Rights stands ready to offer whatever assistance we can to this issue of grave concern. We ask that you and the City Council do everything in your power to see that the necessary research and services are provided.

Thank you.